

名 賢 集  
MING HSIEN CHI  
BEING A COLLECTION OF  
PROVERBS & MAXIMS  
IN THE  
CHINESE LANGUAGE

TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH  
WITH A FEW EXPLANATORY NOTES

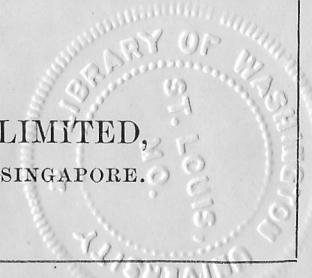
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PREFACE.

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A question was once put to an eminent professor "How long will it take me to acquire a knowledge of Arabic?" and the answer was that to make a really proficient scholar it would take at least five hundred years. The same remark applies equally well to the study of Chinese. Much, however, can be accomplished in a considerably shorter space of time. The ordinary student is able with the assistance of text-books and teacher to obtain a fair working knowledge of either language in five or six years. It has been my experience in language study that much depends on the method of instruction. The main object of every teacher should be to interest the student by introducing what is palatable in the beginning, preparing him step by step for more advanced work. With this end in view great attention should be paid to conversation, through which medium the interest of even the most backward is often awakened. Unfortunately, to attain a thorough knowledge of colloquial Chinese a tremendous tax on the memory is necessary. In the absence of grammar in the proper sense of the word, the student is forced to memorise to a greater extent than in most other languages. From the very beginning an attempt should be made to form sentences with the aid of the teacher on every day topics which can be expanded in proportion as knowledge of the language increases. I have thought it well in the above lines to indicate in general terms the importance of a study of the colloquial aspect of the Chinese Language. To help on this work a translation of 170 common proverbs and maxims collated in book form under the name of Ming Hsien Chi (名賢集) has been made with transliteration of each character together with its proper tone according to Peking usage, as well as an explanation of some of the more obscure sayings. This small book was originally used as a text-book by Chinese school boys. It is written in antithetical couplets of four, five, six and seven characters to one line, about 600 different characters being employed. According to Professor Giles, "children are made to learn these by heart, and ordinary grown-up Chinamen may be almost said to think in proverbs." He adds, "there can be no doubt that to the foreigner a large store of proverbs, committed to memory and judiciously introduced, are a great aid to successful conversation." In support of this last statement I may say that I have often seen a Chinese official's face light up at the timely utterance of a well-known proverb. For those who would dip deeper into the treasures of the Chinese language a study of the scholarly work "Proverbs and Common Sayings from the Chinese" by Mr. Arthur H. Smith is recommended.

For the revision of the manuscript, as well as for the work of seeing it through the Press, I wish to express my indebtedness to Mr. Karl Tochtermann of the Statistical Department, Inspectorate General of Customs, Shanghai.

H. DAWSON-GRÖNE.

KIRIN, March, 1911.

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名 賢 集  
MING<sup>2</sup> HSIEN<sup>2</sup> CHI.<sup>2</sup>

## COLLECTION OF THE SAYINGS OF WORTHY MEN.

## 1.—但 行 好 事

*tan<sup>4</sup> hsing<sup>2</sup> hao<sup>3</sup> shih<sup>4</sup>*

## 莫問前程

*mo<sup>4</sup> wēn<sup>4</sup> ch'ien<sup>2</sup> ch'êng<sup>2</sup>*

Merely do good, don't expect a reward.

前程 advancement; a career.

## 2.—與人方便

*yü<sup>3</sup> jēn<sup>2</sup> fang<sup>1</sup> pien<sup>4</sup>*

## 自己方便

*tzü⁴ chi³ fang¹ pien⁵*

If you do good to anybody, you yourself will benefit by it.

與 has the meaning of 'give'; here almost akin to a dative case.

### 3.—善與人交

*shan<sup>4</sup> yü<sup>3</sup> jēn<sup>2</sup> chiao<sup>1</sup>*

## 久而敬之

chiu<sup>3</sup> erh<sup>2</sup> ching<sup>4</sup> chih<sup>1</sup>

He who excels in making friends will be consistent in his respect for them.

A quotation from Confucius' *Lun Yü* (論語), said of Yen P'ing-chung (晏平仲), a Prime Minister of the Ch'i State, which flourished during the years B. C. 1122—B. C. 412.

## 4.—人 貧 智 短

*jén<sup>2</sup> p'in<sup>2</sup> chih<sup>4</sup> tuan<sup>3</sup>*

## 馬 瘦 毛 長

*ma<sup>3</sup> shou<sup>4</sup> mao<sup>2</sup> ch'ang<sup>2</sup>*

When a man is poor, his intelligence is limited; when a horse is lean, his hair is long;

i.e.—A poor man makes a poor show, in the same way a horse which is ill fed has a disreputable appearance.

## 5.—人 心 似 鐵

*jén<sup>2</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup> ssū<sup>4</sup> t'ieh<sup>3</sup>*

## 官 法 如 爐

*kuan<sup>1</sup> fa<sup>3</sup> ju<sup>2</sup> lu<sup>2</sup>*

Man's heart is like iron, the laws of the Government are like an assayer's furnace;

i.e.—A man can be governed by his country's laws, although his heart may be stubborn.

## 6.—諫 之 雙 美

*chien<sup>4</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> shuang<sup>1</sup> mei<sup>3</sup>*

## 毀 之 兩 傷

*hui<sup>3</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> liang<sup>3</sup> shang<sup>1</sup>*

Reproof is good for both parties, slander injures both.

## 7.—積 善 之 家

*chi<sup>1</sup> shan<sup>4</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> chia<sup>1</sup>*

## 必 有 餘 廉

*pi<sup>4</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> yü<sup>2</sup> ch'ing<sup>4</sup>*

The family that stores up virtue will surely have an abundance of blessings.

This and the next are quotations from the Book of Changes (易經).

## 8.—積 惡 之 家

*chi<sup>1</sup> e<sup>4</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> chia<sup>1</sup>*

## 必 有 餘 祚

*pi<sup>4</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> yü<sup>2</sup> yang<sup>1</sup>*

The family that persists in wrong-doing will surely hand down a store of calamities (to future generations).

## 9.—休 爭 閒 氣

*hsiu<sup>1</sup> chéng<sup>1</sup> hsien<sup>2</sup> ch'i<sup>4</sup>*

## 日 有 平 西

*jih<sup>4</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> p'ing<sup>2</sup> hsi<sup>1</sup>*

Don't meddle in matters that are of no account, the sun is not always in the zenith.

平西 3 or 4 p.m. in Peking colloquial.

## 10.—來 之 不 善

*lai<sup>2</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> shan<sup>4</sup>*

## 去 之 亦 易

*ch'ü<sup>4</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> i<sup>4</sup> i<sup>4</sup>*

Ill gotten gains do not long prosper.

## 11.—人 平 不 語

*jén<sup>2</sup> p'ing<sup>2</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> yü<sup>3</sup>*

## 水 平 不 流

*shui<sup>3</sup> p'ing<sup>2</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> liu<sup>2</sup>*

The peaceful man preserves silence, in smooth water there is no current.

## 12.—得 榮 思 辱

té<sup>4</sup> jung<sup>2</sup> ssü<sup>1</sup> ju<sup>4</sup>

處 安 思 危

ch'u<sup>4</sup> an<sup>1</sup> ssü<sup>1</sup> wei<sup>2</sup>

When you are honoured think of dishonour, when you live in peace think of trouble.

## 13.—羊 羔 雖 美

yang<sup>2</sup> kao<sup>1</sup> sui<sup>1</sup> mei<sup>3</sup>

衆 口 難 調

chung<sup>4</sup> k'ou<sup>3</sup> nan<sup>2</sup> t'iao<sup>2</sup>

Although lamb is good, you cannot cook it to suit everybody's taste.

## 14.—事 要 三 思

shih<sup>4</sup> yao<sup>4</sup> san<sup>1</sup> ssü<sup>1</sup>

免 勞 後 悔

mien<sup>3</sup> lao<sup>2</sup> hou<sup>4</sup> hui<sup>3</sup>

In matters of importance think thrice, you will thereby avoid trouble and regret.

後 悔 repentance.

## 15.—太 子 入 學

t'ai<sup>4</sup> tzü<sup>3</sup> ju<sup>4</sup> hsüeh<sup>2</sup>

庶 民 同 例

shu<sup>4</sup> min<sup>2</sup> t'ung<sup>2</sup> li<sup>4</sup>

If the heir apparent goes to school, he must submit to the same rules as the common people.

庶 民 the masses.

## 16.—官 至 一 品

kuan<sup>1</sup> chih<sup>4</sup> i<sup>1</sup> p'in<sup>3</sup>

萬 法 依 條

wan<sup>4</sup> fa<sup>3</sup> i<sup>1</sup> t'iao<sup>2</sup>

An official who has reached the highest rank must conform to the law in all things.

## 17.—凡 事 從 實

fan<sup>2</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> ts'ung<sup>2</sup> shih<sup>2</sup>

積 福 自 厚

chi<sup>1</sup> fu<sup>2</sup> tzu<sup>4</sup> hou<sup>4</sup>

In everything practise honesty, by so doing you will assuredly store up much happiness.

自 is here used in the sense of 自然 naturally.

## 18.—無 功 受 祿

wu<sup>2</sup> kung<sup>1</sup> shou<sup>4</sup> lu<sup>4</sup>

寢 食 不 安

ch'in<sup>3</sup> shih<sup>2</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> an<sup>1</sup>

He who receives rewards that are undeserved will not feel easy when sleeping or eating.

## 19.—財 高 語 壯

ts'ai<sup>2</sup> kao<sup>1</sup> yü<sup>3</sup> chuang<sup>4</sup>

力 大 欺 人

li<sup>4</sup> ta<sup>4</sup> ch'i<sup>1</sup> jen<sup>2</sup>

The rich man is proud of speech, the strong man oppresses the people.

## 20.—言 多 語 失

yen<sup>2</sup> to<sup>1</sup> yü<sup>3</sup> shih<sup>1</sup>

食 多 傷 心

shih<sup>2</sup> to<sup>1</sup> shang<sup>1</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup>

If you talk too much, you will make mistakes ; if you eat too much, you will injure your digestion.

## 21.—酒 要 少 嘴

chin<sup>3</sup> yao<sup>4</sup> shao<sup>3</sup> ch'ih<sup>1</sup>

事 要 多 知

shih<sup>4</sup> yao<sup>4</sup> to<sup>1</sup> chih<sup>1</sup>

Wine must be taken in small quantities, knowledge in large doses.

## 22.—相 爭 告 人

hsiang<sup>1</sup> chêng<sup>1</sup> kao<sup>4</sup> jen<sup>2</sup>

萬 種 無 益

wan<sup>4</sup> chung<sup>3</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> i<sup>2</sup>

There is no advantage to be gained by bringing in lawsuits against one another.

## 23.—禮 下 於 人

li<sup>3</sup> hsia<sup>4</sup> yu<sup>2</sup> jen<sup>2</sup>

必 有 所 求

pi<sup>4</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> so<sup>3</sup> ch'iu<sup>2</sup>

He who flatters you must have something he wishes to obtain from you ;

i.e.—Nobody does anything for nothing in this world.

## 24.—敏 而 好 學

min<sup>3</sup> erh<sup>2</sup> hao<sup>4</sup> hsüeh<sup>4</sup>

不 耻 下 問

pu<sup>4</sup> ch'ih<sup>3</sup> hsia<sup>4</sup> wen<sup>4</sup>

Clever and fond of learning not ashamed to ask questions of one's inferiors.

A quotation from Confucius' Lun Yü (論語).

## 25.—居 必 指 鄰

chü<sup>1</sup> pi<sup>4</sup> ts'e<sup>2</sup> lin<sup>2</sup>

交 必 良 友

chiao<sup>1</sup> pi<sup>4</sup> liang<sup>2</sup> yu<sup>3</sup>

If you wish to settle down you must select your neighbours, if you make friends they must be good ones.

## 26.—順 天 者 存

shun<sup>4</sup> t'ien<sup>1</sup> chê<sup>3</sup> ts'un<sup>2</sup>

逆 天 者 死

ni<sup>4</sup> t'ien<sup>1</sup> chê<sup>3</sup> wang<sup>2</sup>

Those who obey Heaven will live, those who disobey will perish.

## 27.—人 為 財 死

jen<sup>2</sup> wei<sup>4</sup> ts'ai<sup>2</sup> ssu<sup>3</sup>

鳥 為 食 死

niao<sup>3</sup> wei<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>2</sup> wang<sup>2</sup>

Man will die for money, birds for food.

## 28.—得人一牛

tē<sup>2</sup> jén<sup>2</sup> i<sup>1</sup> niu<sup>2</sup>

還人一馬

huan<sup>2</sup> jén<sup>2</sup> i<sup>1</sup> ma<sup>3</sup>

If you obtain an ox from a man, you will have to give him back a horse.

## 29.—老實常在

lao<sup>3</sup> shih<sup>2</sup> ch'ang<sup>2</sup> tsai<sup>4</sup>

脫空常敗

t'ō<sup>1</sup> k'ung<sup>1</sup> ch'ang<sup>2</sup> p'ai<sup>4</sup>

Honesty always brings success, dishonesty ever defeats itself;

c.f.—'Honesty is the best policy.'

## 30.—三人同行

san<sup>1</sup> jén<sup>2</sup> t'ung<sup>2</sup> hsing<sup>2</sup>

必有我師

pi<sup>4</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> wo<sup>3</sup> shih<sup>1</sup>

If three men are walking together, there must be one of them who can teach me something.

A quotation from Confucius' Lun Yü (論語).

## 31.—人無遠慮

jén<sup>2</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> yüan<sup>3</sup> lü<sup>4</sup>

必有近憂

pi<sup>4</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> chin<sup>4</sup> yu<sup>1</sup>

If a man has no forethought, sorrow is close at hand.

## 32.—寸心不昧

ts'u<sup>4</sup> un<sup>4</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> mei<sup>4</sup>

萬法皆明

wan<sup>4</sup> fa<sup>3</sup> chieh<sup>1</sup> ming<sup>2</sup>

If the heart is not wicked, all things will prosper.

## 33.—明中施捨

ming<sup>1</sup> chung<sup>1</sup> shih<sup>1</sup> she<sup>3</sup>

暗裏墳還

an<sup>4</sup> li<sup>3</sup> t'ien<sup>2</sup> huan<sup>2</sup>

Give alms openly, you will be rewarded in secret.

(Diametrically opposed to the biblical dictum).

## 34.—人間私語

jén<sup>2</sup> chien<sup>1</sup> ssü<sup>1</sup> yü<sup>3</sup>

天聞若雷

t'ien<sup>1</sup> wen<sup>2</sup> jo<sup>4</sup> lei<sup>2</sup>

The very whispers you utter are heard in heaven like a voice of thunder.

## 35.—暗室虧心

an<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> k'uei<sup>1</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup>

神目如電

shén<sup>2</sup> mu<sup>4</sup> ju<sup>2</sup> tien<sup>4</sup>

Evil things done in secret are seen in heaven like a flash of lightning.

## 36.—肚裏蹠蹠

tu<sup>4</sup> li<sup>3</sup> ch'iao<sup>1</sup> ch'i<sup>1</sup>

神道先知

shén<sup>2</sup> tao<sup>4</sup> hsien<sup>1</sup> chih<sup>1</sup>

Heaven knows beforehand the crooked ways of the human heart.

## 37.—人 離 鄉 賤

jén<sup>2</sup> li<sup>2</sup> hsiang<sup>1</sup> chien<sup>4</sup>

## 物 離 鄉 貴

wu<sup>4</sup> li<sup>2</sup> hsiang<sup>1</sup> kuei<sup>4</sup>

If a man leaves his village, he makes himself cheap (*i.e.* of no account); goods leaving the village become more valuable.

## 38.—殺 人 可 恕

sha<sup>1</sup> jén<sup>2</sup> k'o<sup>3</sup> shu<sup>4</sup>

## 情 理 難 容

ch'ing<sup>2</sup> li<sup>3</sup> nan<sup>2</sup> jung<sup>2</sup>

To kill a man is pardonable, but it cannot be excused if done contrary to the law;

*i.e.*—Anything is permissible under the law.

## 39.—人 欲 可 斷

jén<sup>2</sup> yü<sup>4</sup> k'o<sup>3</sup> tuan<sup>4</sup>

## 天 理 可 循

t'ien<sup>1</sup> li<sup>3</sup> k'o<sup>3</sup> hsün<sup>2</sup>

Men's desires can be curbed, the decrees of heaven must be followed.

## 40.—心 要 忠 恕

hsin<sup>1</sup> yao<sup>4</sup> chung<sup>1</sup> shu<sup>4</sup>

## 意 要 誠 實

i<sup>4</sup> yao<sup>4</sup> ch'eng<sup>2</sup> shih<sup>2</sup>

Your disposition must be loyal and forgiving, your intentions fervent and sincere.

## 41.—狎 曖 惡 少

hsia<sup>2</sup> ni<sup>4</sup> é<sup>4</sup> shao<sup>4</sup>

## 久 必 受 累

chiu<sup>3</sup> pi<sup>4</sup> shou<sup>4</sup> let<sup>4</sup>

If you keep company with the wicked, you are bound to suffer in the long run.

狎 曖 to be intimate with (generally in a bad sense).

## 42.—屈 志 老 成

ch'ü<sup>1</sup> chih<sup>4</sup> lao<sup>3</sup> ch'eng<sup>2</sup>

## 急 可 相 依

chi<sup>2</sup> k'o<sup>3</sup> hsiang<sup>1</sup> i<sup>1</sup>

Submit your will to the experienced, you can rely upon them in time of trouble.

## 43.—施 惠 無 念

shih<sup>1</sup> hui<sup>4</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> nien<sup>4</sup>

## 受 恩 莫 忘

shou<sup>4</sup> én<sup>1</sup> mo<sup>4</sup> wang<sup>4</sup>

Have no recollection of favours given, do not forget benefits conferred.

## 44.—勿 謂 華 屋

wu<sup>4</sup> ying<sup>2</sup> hua<sup>2</sup> wu<sup>1</sup>

## 勿 謂 艱 田

wu<sup>4</sup> mou<sup>2</sup> liang<sup>2</sup> t'ien<sup>2</sup>

Do not build fine houses, nor covet fertile fields.

## 45.—祖 宗 雖 遠

tsu<sup>3</sup> tsung<sup>1</sup> sui<sup>1</sup> yüan<sup>3</sup>

## 祭 祀 宜 誠

chi<sup>4</sup> ssü<sup>4</sup> i<sup>2</sup> ch'êng<sup>2</sup>

Although our ancestors are far away, we must none the less be sincere in offering sacrifices to them.

The worship of ancestors is the foundation stone of Chinese ethics.

## 46.—子 孫 雖 愚

tzü<sup>3</sup> sun<sup>1</sup> sui<sup>1</sup> yü<sup>2</sup>

## 詩 書 宜 讀

shih<sup>1</sup> shu<sup>1</sup> i<sup>2</sup> tu<sup>2</sup>

Though your children and grandchildren are dull, nevertheless they must apply themselves to study.

詩 書 poetry and history—a compendium of Chinese learning.

## 47.—一 刻 薄 成 家

k'o<sup>4</sup> po<sup>2</sup> ch'êng<sup>2</sup> chia<sup>1</sup>

## 理 無 久 享

li<sup>3</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> chiu<sup>3</sup> hsiang<sup>3</sup>

Money dishonourably made is not long enjoyed.

## 48.—黃 金 浮 在 世

huang<sup>2</sup> chin<sup>1</sup> fou<sup>2</sup> tsai<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup>

## 白 髮 故 人 稀

po<sup>2</sup> fa<sup>3</sup> ku<sup>4</sup> jên<sup>2</sup> hsi<sup>1</sup>

Gold in the world is plentiful, but hoary headed old friends are scarce.

## 49.—多 金 非 爲 貴

to<sup>1</sup> chin<sup>1</sup> fei<sup>1</sup> wei<sup>2</sup> kuei<sup>4</sup>

## 安 樂 值 錢 多

an<sup>1</sup> lé<sup>4</sup> chih<sup>2</sup> ch'ien<sup>2</sup> to<sup>1</sup>

Much money has little real value, peace and contentment are worth great wealth.

## 50.—休 爭 三 寸 氣

hsiu<sup>1</sup> chêng<sup>1</sup> san<sup>1</sup> ts'ün<sup>4</sup> ch'i<sup>4</sup>

## 白 了 少 年 頭

pai<sup>2</sup> liao<sup>3</sup> shao<sup>4</sup> nien<sup>2</sup> t'ou<sup>2</sup>

Do not give way to any temper, in a few years your hair will be grey.

## 51.—百 年 隨 時 過

po<sup>2</sup> nien<sup>2</sup> sui<sup>2</sup> shih<sup>2</sup> kuo<sup>4</sup>

## 萬 事 轉 頭 空

wan<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> chuan<sup>3</sup> t'ou<sup>2</sup> k'ung<sup>1</sup>

A hundred years elapse quickly, ten thousand things come and go in a moment.

轉 頭 lit. a turn of the head.

## 52.—耕 牛 無 宿 草

kêng<sup>1</sup> niu<sup>2</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> su<sup>4</sup> ts'ao<sup>3</sup>

## 倉 鼠 有 餘 糧

ts'ang<sup>1</sup> shu<sup>3</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> yü<sup>2</sup> liang<sup>2</sup>

The plough-ox has no grass for its evening feed, while the barn-rat has enough grain and to spare.

## 53.—萬 事 分 已 定

wan<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> fen<sup>4</sup> i<sup>3</sup> ting<sup>4</sup>

浮 生 空 自 忙

fou<sup>2</sup> shéng<sup>1</sup> k'ung<sup>1</sup> tzü<sup>4</sup> mang<sup>2</sup>

All things are determined by fate, your striving in life is quite in vain.

## 54.—結 有 德 之 朋

chieh<sup>2</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> te<sup>2</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> p'êng<sup>2</sup>

絕 無 義 之 友

chüeh<sup>2</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> i<sup>4</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> yu<sup>3</sup>

Make virtuous friends, spurn wicked acquaintances.

## 55.—常 懷 克 已 心

ch'ang<sup>2</sup> huai<sup>2</sup> k'o<sup>4</sup> chi<sup>3</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup>

法 度 要 謹 守

fa<sup>3</sup> tu<sup>4</sup> yao<sup>4</sup> chin<sup>3</sup> shou<sup>3</sup>

Always cherish self-control, hold fast to the law.

## 56.—君 子 坦 荡 荡

chün<sup>1</sup> tzü<sup>3</sup> t'an<sup>3</sup> tang<sup>4</sup> tang<sup>4</sup>

小 人 長 戚 戚

hsiao<sup>3</sup> jén<sup>2</sup> ch'ang<sup>2</sup> ch'i<sup>4</sup> ch'i<sup>4</sup>

The superior man is satisfied and composed, the mean man is always dissatisfied.

A quotation from Confucius' Lun Yü (論語).

## 57.—見 事 知 長 短

chien<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> ch'ang<sup>2</sup> tuan<sup>3</sup>

人 面 識 高 低

jén<sup>2</sup> mien<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> kao<sup>1</sup> ti<sup>1</sup>

In judging things it is necessary to know the merits and defects, in judging man the face will tell you whether he is good or bad.

長 短 the right and wrong (lit. the long and short).

## 58.—心 高 遲 甚 事

hsin<sup>1</sup> kao<sup>1</sup> chê<sup>1</sup> shén<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup>

地 高 逐 水 流

ti<sup>4</sup> kao<sup>1</sup> chu<sup>2</sup> shui<sup>3</sup> liu<sup>2</sup>

What is the use of directing your thoughts too high, where the land is high the water flows off?

i.e.—Do not aspire too high or else you may be left high and dry.

## 59.—水 深 流 去 慢

shui<sup>3</sup> shén<sup>1</sup> liu<sup>2</sup> ch'ü<sup>4</sup> man<sup>4</sup>

貴 人 語 話 遲

kuei<sup>4</sup> jén<sup>2</sup> yü<sup>3</sup> hua<sup>4</sup> ch'ih<sup>2</sup>

When the water is deep the current is sluggish, the superior man is slow of speech.

## 60.—道 高 龍 虎 伏

tao<sup>4</sup> kao<sup>1</sup> lung<sup>2</sup> hu<sup>3</sup> fu<sup>2</sup>

德 重 鬼 神 欽

te<sup>2</sup> chung<sup>4</sup> kuei<sup>3</sup> shén<sup>2</sup> ch'in<sup>1</sup>

The dragon and tiger worship the divine principle, devils and spirits venerate glorious virtue.

德 is the exemplification of 道.

## 61.—人 高 談 今 古

jēn<sup>2</sup> kao<sup>1</sup> t'an<sup>2</sup> chin<sup>1</sup> ku<sup>3</sup>物 高 價 出 頭  
wu<sup>4</sup> kao<sup>1</sup> chia<sup>4</sup> ch'u<sup>1</sup> t'ou<sup>2</sup>

Men of ability can talk of the present and past, when the goods are superior the price is high.

## 62.—休 倚 時 來 勢

hsia<sup>1</sup> i<sup>3</sup> shih<sup>2</sup> lai<sup>2</sup> shih<sup>4</sup>隄 防 時 去 年  
ti<sup>1</sup> fang<sup>2</sup> shih<sup>2</sup> ch'u<sup>4</sup> niēn<sup>2</sup>

Do not depend upon your present good fortune, you must anticipate the time when it will leave you.

## 63.—藤 蘿 繞 樹 生

t'ēng<sup>2</sup> lo<sup>2</sup> jao<sup>3</sup> shu<sup>4</sup> shéng<sup>1</sup>樹 倒 藤 蘿 死  
shu<sup>4</sup> tao<sup>3</sup> t'ēng<sup>2</sup> lo<sup>2</sup> ssū<sup>3</sup>

The creeper lives by twining itself round the tree, when the tree falls the creeper dies.

藤 蘿 Wistaria chinensis.

## 64.—官 滿 如 花 謂

kuan<sup>1</sup> man<sup>3</sup> ju<sup>2</sup> hua<sup>1</sup> hsieh<sup>4</sup>勢 敗 奴 欺 主  
shih<sup>4</sup> pai<sup>4</sup> nu<sup>2</sup> ch'u<sup>1</sup> chu<sup>3</sup>

When the time of holding office is over, you are like the flower which is withered ; when you have no power your servants will insult you.

## 65.—命 強 人 欺 鬼

ming<sup>4</sup> ch'iang<sup>2</sup> jēn<sup>2</sup> ch'i<sup>1</sup> kuei<sup>3</sup>時 衰 鬼 欺 人  
shih<sup>2</sup> shuai<sup>1</sup> kuei<sup>3</sup> ch'i<sup>1</sup> jēn<sup>2</sup>

When fortune is good, you can triumph over evil spirits ; when times are bad, the devils will lord it over you.

## 66.—但 得 一 步 地

tan<sup>4</sup> tê<sup>2</sup> i<sup>1</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> ti<sup>4</sup>何 須 不 爲 人  
ho<sup>2</sup> hsü<sup>1</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> wei<sup>2</sup> jēn<sup>2</sup>

Even if it is in a trifling matter, why be wicked ?

## 67.—人 無 千 日 好

jēn<sup>2</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> ch'ien<sup>1</sup> jih<sup>4</sup> hao<sup>3</sup>花 無 百 日 紅  
hua<sup>1</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> po<sup>2</sup> jih<sup>4</sup> hung<sup>2</sup>

Man's happiness is not everlasting, the flower cannot bloom for long.

*Lit.*—Man is not happy for 1,000 days, a flower does not bloom 100 days.

## 68.—人 有 十 年 壯

jēn<sup>2</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> shih<sup>2</sup> niēn<sup>2</sup> chuang<sup>4</sup>神 鬼 不 敢 傍  
shén<sup>2</sup> kuei<sup>3</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> kan<sup>3</sup> pang<sup>4</sup>

If a man is fortunate for ten years, the devils and spirits dare not touch him.

## 69.—厨 中 有 剩 飯

ch'ü<sup>2</sup> chung<sup>1</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> shéng<sup>4</sup> fan<sup>4</sup>

## 路 上 有 餓 人

lu<sup>4</sup> shang<sup>4</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> chi<sup>1</sup> jén<sup>2</sup>

If there is a surplus of food in the kitchen, there are poor people in the street.

## 70.—饒 人 不 是 癡

jao<sup>2</sup> jén<sup>2</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> ch'ih<sup>2</sup>

## 過 後 得 便 宜

kuo<sup>4</sup> hou<sup>4</sup> tē<sup>2</sup> p'ien<sup>2</sup> i<sup>2</sup>

It is not foolish to pardon men, you will derive benefit from so doing at a future date.

## 71.—量 小 非 君 子

liang<sup>2</sup> hsiao<sup>3</sup> fei<sup>1</sup> chün<sup>1</sup> tzu<sup>3</sup>

## 品 高 是 丈 夫

p'in<sup>3</sup> kao<sup>1</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> chang<sup>4</sup> fu<sup>1</sup>

A narrow-minded man is not a superior individual, noble conduct is sublime.

## 72.—路 遙 知 馬 力

lu<sup>4</sup> yao<sup>2</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> ma<sup>3</sup> li<sup>4</sup>

## 日 久 見 人 心

jih<sup>4</sup> chiu<sup>3</sup> chien<sup>4</sup> jén<sup>2</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup>

A day's journey will test the strength of a horse, it takes a long time to understand a man's character.

## 73.—長 存 君 子 道

ch'ang<sup>2</sup> ts'un<sup>2</sup> chün<sup>1</sup> tzu<sup>3</sup> tao<sup>4</sup>

## 須 有 稱 心 時

hsü<sup>1</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> ch'én<sup>4</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup> shih<sup>2</sup>

Always bear in mind the words of the superior man, there must be a brighter day at hand;

i.e.—Always do what is right even in misfortune, brighter days are in store.

## 74.—雁 飛 不 到 處

yen<sup>4</sup> fei<sup>1</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> tao<sup>4</sup> ch'u<sup>4</sup>

## 人 被 利 名 牽

jén<sup>2</sup> pei<sup>4</sup> li<sup>4</sup> ming<sup>2</sup> ch'ien<sup>1</sup>

There are places to which a wild goose cannot fly, man is attracted by name and fame.

## 75.—有 錢 便 使 用

yu<sup>3</sup> ch'ien<sup>2</sup> pien<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>3</sup> yung<sup>4</sup>

## 死 後 一 塵 空

ssu<sup>4</sup> hou<sup>4</sup> i<sup>1</sup> ch'ang<sup>2</sup> k'ung<sup>1</sup>

If you have money, spend it; when you are dead, it will be of no use to you.

## 76.—爲 仁 不 富 矣

wei<sup>2</sup> jén<sup>2</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> fu<sup>4</sup> i<sup>3</sup>

## 爲 富 不 仁 矣

wei<sup>2</sup> fu<sup>4</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> jén<sup>2</sup> i<sup>3</sup>

If you are charitable, you cannot become rich; if you are rich, you cannot be charitable.

## 77.—君子喻於義

chün<sup>1</sup> tzü<sup>3</sup> yü<sup>4</sup> yü<sup>2</sup> i<sup>4</sup>

## 小人喻於利

hsiao<sup>3</sup> jén<sup>2</sup> yü<sup>4</sup> yü<sup>2</sup> li<sup>4</sup>

The superior man devotes himself to justice, the mean man to gain.

A quotation from Confucius' Lun Yü (論語).

## 78.—貧而無怨難

p'in<sup>2</sup> erh<sup>2</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> yüan<sup>4</sup> nan<sup>2</sup>

## 富而無驕易

fu<sup>4</sup> erh<sup>2</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> chiao<sup>1</sup> i<sup>4</sup>

It is difficult to be poor and not complain, it is easy to be rich and not be proud.

A quotation from Confucius' Lun Yü (論語).

## 79.—萬般全在命

wan<sup>4</sup> pan<sup>1</sup> ch'üan<sup>2</sup> tsai<sup>4</sup> ming<sup>4</sup>

## 半點不由人

pan<sup>4</sup> tien<sup>3</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> yu<sup>2</sup> jén<sup>2</sup>

Everything depends on fate, the will of man availeth nothing.

## 80.—在家敬父母

tsai<sup>4</sup> chia<sup>1</sup> ching<sup>4</sup> fu<sup>4</sup> mu<sup>3</sup>

## 何須遠燒香

ho<sup>2</sup> hsü<sup>1</sup> yüan<sup>3</sup> shao<sup>1</sup> hsiang<sup>1</sup>

When at home be dutiful to your parents, what use is there in burning incense when far away?

## 81.—家和貧也好

chia<sup>1</sup> ho<sup>2</sup> p'in<sup>2</sup> yeh<sup>3</sup> hao<sup>3</sup>

## 不義富如何

pu<sup>4</sup> i<sup>4</sup> fu<sup>4</sup> ju<sup>2</sup> ho<sup>2</sup>

Poverty is no disgrace to a family living in harmony, why become rich by unrighteous means?

## 82.—晴乾開水道

ching<sup>2</sup> kan<sup>1</sup> k'ui<sup>1</sup> shui<sup>3</sup> tao<sup>4</sup>

## 須防暴雨時

hsü<sup>1</sup> fang<sup>2</sup> pao<sup>4</sup> yü<sup>3</sup> shih<sup>2</sup>

Open your gutters while it is fine, you will thus anticipate a heavy shower;

i.e.—Prepare for a rainy day,

cf.—'Make hay while the sun shines.'

## 83.—寒門生貴子

han<sup>2</sup> mén<sup>2</sup> shéng<sup>1</sup> kuei<sup>4</sup> tzü<sup>3</sup>

## 白屋出公卿

po<sup>2</sup> wu<sup>1</sup> ch'u<sup>1</sup> kung<sup>1</sup> ch'ing<sup>1</sup>

A poor family may rear noble children, out of a humble dwelling high ministers may come forth.

## 84.—將相本無種

chiang<sup>4</sup> hsiang<sup>4</sup> pén<sup>3</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> chung<sup>3</sup>

## 男兒當自強

nan<sup>2</sup> érh<sup>2</sup> tang<sup>1</sup> tzü<sup>4</sup> ch'iang<sup>2</sup>

Ministers and generals are not born so, you must exert yourself if you want to succeed.

## 85.—成 人 不 自 在

ch'êng<sup>2</sup> jén<sup>2</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> tzü<sup>4</sup> tsai<sup>2</sup>

自 在 不 成 人

tzü<sup>4</sup> tsai<sup>2</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> ch'êng<sup>2</sup> jén<sup>2</sup>

If you want to be a man you cannot take it easy, take it easy and you will not succeed.

## 86.—國 正 天 心 順

kuo<sup>2</sup> chêng<sup>4</sup> t'ien<sup>1</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup> shun<sup>4</sup>

官 清 民 自 安

kuan<sup>1</sup> ch'ing<sup>1</sup> min<sup>2</sup> tzü<sup>4</sup> an<sup>1</sup>

If the Government is good, heaven will bless it; if the official is upright, the people will live in peace.

## 87.—妻 賢 夫 禍 少

ch'i<sup>1</sup> hsien<sup>2</sup> fu<sup>1</sup> huo<sup>4</sup> shao<sup>3</sup>

子 孝 父 心 寬

tzü<sup>3</sup> hsiao<sup>4</sup> fu<sup>4</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup> k'uan<sup>1</sup>

A virtuous wife will lessen the misfortunes of her husband, a filial son will put his father's mind at ease.

## 88.—自 家 無 運 至

tzü<sup>4</sup> chia<sup>1</sup> uru<sup>2</sup> yün<sup>4</sup> chih<sup>4</sup>

却 怨 世 界 難

ch'üeh<sup>4</sup> yüan<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> chieh<sup>4</sup> nan<sup>2</sup>

The man to whose lot no good fortune falls, complains that it is difficult to succeed in the world.

## 89.—有 錢 能 解 語

yu<sup>3</sup> ch'ien<sup>2</sup> nêng<sup>2</sup> chieh<sup>3</sup> yü<sup>3</sup>

無 錢 語 不 聽

wu<sup>2</sup> ch'ien<sup>2</sup> yü<sup>3</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> ting<sup>1</sup>

If you have money, people will understand you; if you have no money, no one will trouble listening to your words.

## 90.—人 生 不 滿 百

jén<sup>2</sup> shêng<sup>1</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> man<sup>3</sup> pai<sup>3</sup>

常 懷 千 歲 憂

ch'ang<sup>2</sup> huai<sup>2</sup> ch'ien<sup>1</sup> sui<sup>4</sup> yu<sup>1</sup>

A man may never live a hundred years, though he may endure trouble of a thousand.

## 91.—來 說 是 非 者

lai<sup>2</sup> shuo<sup>1</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> fei<sup>1</sup> ché<sup>3</sup>

便 是 是 非 人

pien<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> fei<sup>1</sup> jén<sup>2</sup>

He who comes forward and asserts that this is the right and the wrong doer, is himself the wrong doer.

## 92.—積 善 有 善 報

chi<sup>1</sup> shan<sup>4</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> shan<sup>4</sup> pao<sup>4</sup>

積 惡 有 惡 報

chi<sup>1</sup> e<sup>4</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> e<sup>4</sup> pao<sup>4</sup>

Do good you will be rewarded with good, do evil and you will be rewarded with evil.

## 93.—報 應 有 早 晚

pao<sup>4</sup> ying<sup>4</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> tsao<sup>3</sup> wan<sup>3</sup>

禍 福 自 不 錯

huo<sup>4</sup> fu<sup>2</sup> tzi<sup>4</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> ts'o<sup>4</sup>

Retribution must come early or late, calamity or good fortune will follow as a matter of course.

## 94.—花 有 重 開 日

hua<sup>1</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> ch'ung<sup>2</sup> k'ai<sup>1</sup> jih<sup>4</sup>

人 無 長 少 年

jēn<sup>2</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> ch'ang<sup>2</sup> shao<sup>4</sup> nien<sup>2</sup>

The flower blooms again, man, however, has no perpetual youth.

## 95.—人 無 壞 虎 心

jēn<sup>2</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> hai<sup>4</sup> hu<sup>3</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup>

虎 有 傷 人 意

hu<sup>3</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> shang<sup>1</sup> jēn<sup>2</sup> i<sup>4</sup>

Man has no spite against the tiger, the tiger meditates the destruction of man.

## 96.—上 山 擒 虎 易

shang<sup>4</sup> shan<sup>1</sup> ch'in<sup>2</sup> hu<sup>3</sup> i<sup>4</sup>

開 口 告 人 難

k'ai<sup>1</sup> k'ou<sup>3</sup> kao<sup>4</sup> jēn<sup>2</sup> nan<sup>2</sup>

Climbing a mountain to capture a tiger is easy, to beg alms is difficult;

i.e.—There is nothing more difficult than begging.

## 97.—忠 臣 不 怕 死

chung<sup>1</sup> ch'en<sup>2</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> p'a<sup>4</sup> ssu<sup>3</sup>

怕 死 不 忠 臣

p'a<sup>4</sup> ssu<sup>3</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> chung<sup>1</sup> ch'en<sup>2</sup>

A loyal minister does not dread death, he who dreads death is not a loyal minister.

## 98.—從 前 多 少 事

ts'ung<sup>2</sup> ch'ien<sup>2</sup> to<sup>1</sup> shao<sup>3</sup> shih<sup>4</sup>

過 去 一 場 空

kuo<sup>4</sup> ch'ü<sup>4</sup> i<sup>1</sup> ch'ang<sup>2</sup> k'ung<sup>1</sup>

From olden times to the present no matter how great the affair when it has passed, it is a mere trifle.

## 99.—既 在 矮 簷 下

chi<sup>4</sup> tsai<sup>4</sup> ai<sup>3</sup> yen<sup>2</sup> hsia<sup>4</sup>

怎 敢 不 低 頭

ts'en<sup>3</sup> kan<sup>3</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> ti<sup>1</sup> t'ou<sup>2</sup>

Standing under low-pitched eaves, how should one venture not to bend one's head?

i.e.—No matter how disagreeable it is, you must obey those who are placed over you.

## 100.—家 貧 知 孝 子

chia<sup>1</sup> p'in<sup>2</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> hsiao<sup>4</sup> tz'u<sup>3</sup>

國 亂 顯 忠 臣

kuo<sup>2</sup> luan<sup>4</sup> hsien<sup>3</sup> chung<sup>1</sup> ch'en<sup>2</sup>

The dutifulness of a son is tried, when his family is poor; the loyalty of a minister is tested, when a nation is in trouble.

## 101.—命 貧 君 子 挫

ming<sup>4</sup> p'in<sup>2</sup> chün<sup>1</sup> tzü<sup>3</sup> cho<sup>1</sup>時 來 小 人 強  
shih<sup>2</sup> lai<sup>2</sup> hsiao<sup>3</sup> jén<sup>2</sup> ch'iang<sup>2</sup>

Bad fortune may have an adverse effect upon the superior man, good fortune may prove the salvation of the mean man.

## 102.—命 好 心 也 好

ming<sup>4</sup> hao<sup>3</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup> yeh<sup>3</sup> hao<sup>3</sup>富 貴 直 到 老  
fu<sup>4</sup> kuei<sup>4</sup> chih<sup>2</sup> tao<sup>4</sup> lao<sup>3</sup>

A good fortune and good heart will enjoy riches and honour even to old age.

## 103.—命 好 心 不 好

ming<sup>4</sup> hao<sup>3</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> hao<sup>3</sup>中 途 天 折 了  
chung<sup>1</sup> t'u<sup>2</sup> yao<sup>1</sup> ché<sup>4</sup> lia<sup>3</sup>

A good fortune and bad heart will cut short happiness and cause death.

## 104.—心 命 都 不 好

hsin<sup>1</sup> ming<sup>4</sup> tu<sup>1</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> hao<sup>3</sup>窮 苦 直 到 老  
ch'iuung<sup>2</sup> k'u<sup>3</sup> chih<sup>2</sup> tao<sup>4</sup> lao<sup>3</sup>

If heart and fortune are both bad, poverty and misfortune will last till old age.

## 105.—年 老 心 未 老

nien<sup>2</sup> lao<sup>3</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup> wei<sup>4</sup> lao<sup>3</sup>人 窮 志 不 窮  
jén<sup>2</sup> ch'iuung<sup>2</sup> chih<sup>4</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> ch'iuung<sup>2</sup>

Although old in years the heart may be young, a man who is poor may have lofty aspirations.

## 106.—自 古 皆 有 死

tzü<sup>4</sup> ku<sup>3</sup> chieh<sup>1</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> ssü<sup>3</sup>民 無 信 不 立  
min<sup>2</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> hsin<sup>4</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> li<sup>4</sup>

From olden times up to the present all have had to die, people cannot succeed without being sincere.

A quotation from Confucius' Lun Yü (論語).

## 107.—善 若 施 於 人

shan<sup>4</sup> jo<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>1</sup> yü<sup>2</sup> jén<sup>2</sup>禍 不 侵 於 已  
huo<sup>4</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> ch'in<sup>1</sup> yü<sup>2</sup> chi<sup>3</sup>

If you do good to a man, calamity will not come upon you.

## 108.—既 讀 孔 孟 之 書

chi<sup>4</sup> tu<sup>2</sup> k'ung<sup>3</sup> mēng<sup>4</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> shu<sup>1</sup>必 達 周 公 之 禮  
pi<sup>4</sup> ta<sup>2</sup> chou<sup>1</sup> kung<sup>1</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> li<sup>3</sup>

If you study the works of Confucius and Mencius, you must learn the ritual of Duke Chou.

周 禮 are the rules for the guidance of court officials. The invention of the mariner's compass has been attributed to Duke Chou.

## 109.—君子 敬 而 無 失

chün<sup>1</sup> tzü<sup>3</sup> ching<sup>4</sup> érh<sup>2</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> shih<sup>1</sup>

與 人 慎 而 有 禮

yu<sup>3</sup> jén<sup>2</sup> kung<sup>1</sup> érh<sup>2</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> lì<sup>3</sup>

The superior man is respectful and not rude, towards men he is polite and courteous.

A quotation from Confucius' Lun Yü (論語).

## 110.—事 君 數 斯 辱 矣

shih<sup>4</sup> chün<sup>1</sup> so<sup>4</sup> ssü<sup>1</sup> ju<sup>4</sup> i<sup>3</sup>

朋 友 數 斯 疏 矣

p'êng<sup>2</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> so<sup>4</sup> ssü<sup>1</sup> shu<sup>1</sup> i<sup>3</sup>

If you are importunate in serving your sovereign you will bring disgrace upon yourself, if you act in the same manner towards your friends they will shun you.

A quotation from Confucius' Lun Yü (論語).

## 111.—人 無 酬 天 之 力

jén<sup>2</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> ch'ou<sup>2</sup> t'ien<sup>1</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> li<sup>4</sup>

天 有 養 人 之 心

t'ien<sup>1</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> yang<sup>3</sup> jén<sup>2</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup>

Man has no strength to requite the gifts of heaven, heaven yearns to feed man.

## 112.—馬 不 輛 雙 鞍

i<sup>1</sup> ma<sup>3</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> pei<sup>4</sup> shuang<sup>1</sup> an<sup>1</sup>

忠 臣 不 事 二 主

chung<sup>1</sup> ch'êñ<sup>2</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> érh<sup>4</sup> chu<sup>3</sup>

You cannot fit two packsaddles to one horse, a loyal minister cannot serve two masters;

cf.—'You cannot serve God and Mammon.'

## 113.—長 想 有 力 之 奴

ch'ang<sup>2</sup> hsiang<sup>3</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> li<sup>4</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> nu<sup>2</sup>

不 念 無 爲 之 子

pu<sup>4</sup> nien<sup>4</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> wei<sup>2</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> tzü<sup>3</sup>

Be ever mindful of faithful servants, don't trouble about good-for-nothing sons.

## 114.—人 有 旦 夕 禍 福

jén<sup>2</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> tan<sup>4</sup> hsi<sup>1</sup> huo<sup>4</sup> fu<sup>2</sup>

天 有 曇 夜 陰 晴

t'ien<sup>1</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> chou<sup>4</sup> yeh<sup>4</sup> yin<sup>1</sup> ch'ing<sup>2</sup>

Good and bad fortune befall man when least expected ; the sky is sometimes clouded over, at others bright with sunshine.

## 115.—君 子 當 權 積 福

chün<sup>1</sup> tzü<sup>3</sup> tang<sup>1</sup> ch'üan<sup>2</sup> ch'i<sup>1</sup> fu<sup>2</sup>

小 人 仗 勢 欺 人

hsiao<sup>3</sup> jén<sup>2</sup> chang<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> ch'i<sup>1</sup> jén<sup>2</sup>

The superior man while in power stores up happiness, the mean man relies upon his influence and oppresses the people.

## 116.—人 將 禮 樂 爲 先

jén<sup>2</sup> chiang<sup>1</sup> li<sup>3</sup> yüeh<sup>4</sup> wei<sup>2</sup> hsien<sup>1</sup>

樹 將 枝 葉 為 圓

shu<sup>4</sup> chiang<sup>1</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> yeh<sup>4</sup> wei<sup>2</sup> yüan<sup>2</sup>

Man considers rites and music of prime importance, the tree bears branches and leaves to give it the appearance of completeness (i.e. of finish).

## 117.—馬 有 垂 羶 之 義

ma<sup>3</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> ch'ui<sup>2</sup> chiang<sup>1</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> i<sup>4</sup>

狗 有 濕 草 之 恩

kou<sup>3</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> shih<sup>1</sup> ts'ao<sup>3</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> en<sup>1</sup>

The horse has the goodness to lower the bridle, the dog has the goodwill to moisten the grass.

The interpretation of this enigmatic saying is as follows: A certain horse lowered its bridle over a well to enable its master who had fallen in to climb up into safety. A dog carried water from a stream close by for the purpose of moistening the grass to prevent fire from spreading to the place where his master lay unconscious.

## 118.—運 去 黃 金 失 色

yün<sup>4</sup> ch'ui<sup>4</sup> huang<sup>2</sup> chin<sup>1</sup> shih<sup>1</sup> se<sup>4</sup>

時 來 鐵 也 爭 光

shih<sup>2</sup> lai<sup>2</sup> t'ieh<sup>3</sup> yeh<sup>3</sup> chéng<sup>1</sup> kuang<sup>1</sup>

When fortune has gone, gold loses its colour; when good fortune appears, even iron shines brightly.

## 119.—怕 人 知 道 休 作

p'a<sup>4</sup> jen<sup>2</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> tao<sup>4</sup> hsiu<sup>1</sup> tso<sup>4</sup>

要 人 敬 重 勤 學

yao<sup>4</sup> jen<sup>2</sup> ching<sup>4</sup> chung<sup>4</sup> ch'in<sup>2</sup> hsüeh<sup>2</sup>

If you are afraid that people will know it, don't do it; if you want people to respect you, study diligently.

## 120.—泰 山 不 却 微 塵

T'ai<sup>4</sup> Shan<sup>1</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> ch'ieh<sup>4</sup> wei<sup>1</sup> ch'en<sup>2</sup>

積 小 壘 成 高 大

chi<sup>1</sup> hsiao<sup>3</sup> lei<sup>3</sup> ch'eng<sup>2</sup> kao<sup>1</sup> ta<sup>4</sup>

T'ai Shan does not refuse minute particles of sand, it accumulates small grains and increases in height.

T'ai Shan is one of the five most famous mountains in China.

## 121.—人 道 誰 無 煩 懶

jen<sup>2</sup> tao<sup>4</sup> shui<sup>2</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> fan<sup>2</sup> nao<sup>3</sup>

風 來 浪 也 白 頭

feng<sup>1</sup> lai<sup>2</sup> lang<sup>4</sup> yeh<sup>3</sup> pai<sup>2</sup> t'ou<sup>2</sup>

Who says that people have no sorrow, when the wind rises the waves are crested with foam.

## 122.—貧 居 闹 市 撫 人 問

pin<sup>2</sup> chü<sup>1</sup> nao<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> jen<sup>2</sup> wen<sup>4</sup>

富 在 深 山 有 遠 親

fu<sup>4</sup> tsai<sup>4</sup> shen<sup>1</sup> shan<sup>1</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> yüan<sup>3</sup> ch'in<sup>1</sup>

When you are poor, although you may live in the busy market, no one will ask about you; when you are rich although you live in the mountain recesses, you will have distant relations.

## 123.—交 情 當 慎 初 相 見

chiao<sup>1</sup> ch'ing<sup>2</sup> tang<sup>1</sup> shen<sup>4</sup> ch'u<sup>1</sup> hsiang<sup>1</sup> chien<sup>4</sup>

到 老 終 無 怨 恨 心

tao<sup>4</sup> lao<sup>3</sup> chung<sup>1</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> yüan<sup>4</sup> hen<sup>4</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup>

When you make friends, you must be careful the first time you meet, then even to old age you will not complain of the friendships made.

## 124.—白 馬 紅 纓 彩 色 新

po<sup>2</sup> ma<sup>3</sup> hung<sup>2</sup> ying<sup>1</sup> ts'ai<sup>3</sup> se<sup>4</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup>

不 是 親 者 强 來 親

pu<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> ch'in<sup>1</sup> che<sup>3</sup> ch'iang<sup>3</sup> lai<sup>2</sup> ch'in<sup>1</sup>

A white horse with red trappings shines forth conspicuously; (when you are rich) those who are not relatives claim that they are near relations.

## 125.—朝馬死黃金盡

*i<sup>1</sup> chao<sup>1</sup> ma<sup>3</sup> ssu<sup>3</sup> huang<sup>2</sup> chin<sup>1</sup> chin<sup>4</sup>*

親者如同陌路人  
*ch'in<sup>1</sup> che<sup>3</sup> ju<sup>2</sup> tung<sup>2</sup> mo<sup>4</sup> lu<sup>4</sup> jen<sup>2</sup>*

When the horse dies and the gold is exhausted, relatives are just like strangers.

## 126.—青草發時便蓋地

*ching<sup>1</sup> ts'ao<sup>3</sup> fa<sup>1</sup> shih<sup>2</sup> pien<sup>4</sup> kai<sup>4</sup> ti<sup>4</sup>*

運通何須覓故人  
*yun<sup>4</sup> tung<sup>1</sup> ho<sup>2</sup> hsiu<sup>1</sup> mi<sup>4</sup> ku<sup>4</sup> jen<sup>2</sup>*

When the tender shoots of grass sprout forth, the ground is covered; when good fortune comes, there is no need to look for old friends.

## 127.—但能依理求生計

*tan<sup>4</sup> neng<sup>2</sup> i<sup>1</sup> li<sup>3</sup> ch'iu<sup>2</sup> sheng<sup>1</sup> chi<sup>4</sup>*

何必欺心作惡人  
*ho<sup>2</sup> pi<sup>4</sup> ch'i<sup>1</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup> tso<sup>4</sup> e<sup>4</sup> jen<sup>2</sup>*

If you can make a living by fair means, why should you be wicked against your conscience?

## 128.—纔爲人交辨人心

*ts'ai<sup>2</sup> wei<sup>2</sup> jen<sup>2</sup> chiao<sup>1</sup> pien<sup>4</sup> jen<sup>2</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup>*

高山流水向古今  
*kao<sup>1</sup> shan<sup>1</sup> liu<sup>2</sup> shui<sup>3</sup> hsiang<sup>4</sup> ku<sup>3</sup> chin<sup>1</sup>*

When you first make a friend you must prove him, lofty mountains and running water have existed from time immemorial.

Lofty mountains and running water are symbolic of close friendship such as that of Yü Po-ya (俞伯牙) and Chung Tzü-ch'i (鍾子期), the David and Jonathan of Chinese lore.

## 129.—莫作虧心僥倖事

*mo<sup>4</sup> tso<sup>4</sup> k'uei<sup>1</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup> chiao<sup>3</sup> hsing<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup>*

自然災患不來侵  
*tsui<sup>4</sup> jan<sup>2</sup> tsai<sup>1</sup> huan<sup>4</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> lai<sup>2</sup> ch'in<sup>1</sup>*

Do nothing discreditable in order to win success, as a natural consequence calamities will not steal upon you.

## 130.—人著人死天不肯

*jen<sup>2</sup> cho<sup>2</sup> jen<sup>2</sup> ssu<sup>3</sup> t'ien<sup>1</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> k'en<sup>3</sup>*

天著人死有何難  
*t'ien<sup>1</sup> cho<sup>2</sup> jen<sup>2</sup> ssu<sup>3</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> ho<sup>2</sup> nan<sup>2</sup>*

If man desires the death of his fellow, Heaven opposes it; if Heaven wants a man to die, what difficulty is there?

## 131.—我見幾家貧了富

*wo<sup>3</sup> chien<sup>4</sup> chi<sup>3</sup> chia<sup>1</sup> p'in<sup>2</sup> liao<sup>3</sup> fu<sup>4</sup>*

幾家富了又還貧  
*chi<sup>3</sup> chia<sup>1</sup> fu<sup>4</sup> liao<sup>3</sup> yu<sup>4</sup> huan<sup>2</sup> p'in<sup>2</sup>*

I have seen several families from being poor become rich, several families from being rich become poor.

## 132.—三寸氣在千般用

*san<sup>1</sup> ts'un<sup>4</sup> ch'i<sup>4</sup> tsai<sup>4</sup> ch'ien<sup>1</sup> pan<sup>1</sup> yung<sup>4</sup>*

一旦無常萬事休  
*i<sup>1</sup> tan<sup>4</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> ch'ang<sup>2</sup> wan<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> hsiu<sup>1</sup>*

Three inches of breath can be used in a thousand ways, once dead 10,000 things are finished.

125

## 133.—人 見 利 而 不 見 害

jén<sup>2</sup> chien<sup>4</sup> li<sup>4</sup> érh<sup>2</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> chien<sup>4</sup> hai<sup>4</sup>魚 見 食 而 不 見 鈎  
yū<sup>2</sup> chien<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>2</sup> érh<sup>2</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> chien<sup>4</sup> kou<sup>1</sup>When  
just like straMan has seen the gain but not the harm, the fish has seen the  
bait but not the hook.

## 134.—是 非 只 爲 多 開 口

shih<sup>4</sup> fei<sup>1</sup> chih<sup>3</sup> wei<sup>2</sup> to<sup>1</sup> k'ai<sup>1</sup> k'ou<sup>3</sup>煩 懶 皆 因 強 出 頭  
fan<sup>2</sup> nao<sup>3</sup> chieh<sup>1</sup> yin<sup>1</sup> ch'iang<sup>3</sup> ch'u<sup>1</sup> t'ou<sup>2</sup>When  
covered; v  
old friends.You get into trouble because you speak too much, you get  
vexed because you strive to take the lead.

## 135.—平 生 正 直 無 私 曲

p'ing<sup>2</sup> shéng<sup>1</sup> chéng<sup>4</sup> chih<sup>2</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> ssn<sup>1</sup> ch'ü<sup>1</sup>問 基 天 公 饒 不 饒  
wén<sup>4</sup> shén<sup>4</sup> t'ien<sup>1</sup> kung<sup>1</sup> jao<sup>2</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> jao<sup>2</sup>If yo  
wicked agDuring your whole life you have been upright and have not  
walked in crooked paths, why should you ask Heaven to pardon  
or condemn you?

## 136.—猛 虎 不 在 當 道 臥

méng<sup>3</sup> hu<sup>3</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> tsai<sup>4</sup> tang<sup>1</sup> tao<sup>4</sup> wo<sup>4</sup>困 龍 也 有 上 天 時  
k'un<sup>4</sup> lung<sup>2</sup> yeh<sup>3</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> shang<sup>4</sup> t'ien<sup>1</sup> shih<sup>2</sup>Whe  
mountainsuch  
DaviA savage tiger does not lie in wait on the highroad, there is  
still time for the dragon in distress to go to heaven.

## 137.—臨 峴 勒 馬 收 輜 晚

lin<sup>2</sup> ai<sup>2</sup> le<sup>4</sup> ma<sup>3</sup> shou<sup>1</sup> chiang<sup>1</sup> wan<sup>3</sup>船 到 江 心 補 漏 遲  
ch'uan<sup>2</sup> tao<sup>4</sup> chiang<sup>1</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup> pu<sup>3</sup> lou<sup>4</sup> ch'ih<sup>2</sup>It is too late to draw in the reins when the horse reaches the  
cliff, when the boat is in midstream it is not the time to stop her  
from leaking.

## 138.—家 業 有 時 爲 來 往

chia<sup>1</sup> yeh<sup>4</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> shih<sup>2</sup> wei<sup>2</sup> lai<sup>2</sup> wang<sup>3</sup>還 錢 長 記 借 錢 時  
huan<sup>2</sup> ch'ien<sup>2</sup> ch'ang<sup>2</sup> chi<sup>4</sup> chieh<sup>4</sup> ch'ien<sup>2</sup> shih<sup>2</sup>When you are prosperous, mix freely with your fellow-men ;  
when you pay back your debts, always think of the time when you  
borrowed ;i.e.—a day may come when you need to borrow money and if you have  
no friends it will be difficult.

## 139.—金 風 未 動 蟬 先 覺

chin<sup>1</sup> feng<sup>1</sup> wei<sup>4</sup> tung<sup>4</sup> ch'an<sup>2</sup> hsien<sup>1</sup> chüeh<sup>2</sup>暗 算 無 常 死 不 知  
an<sup>4</sup> suan<sup>4</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> ch'ang<sup>2</sup> ssu<sup>3</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> chih<sup>1</sup>The cricket is aware of the autumn wind ere it begins to blow,  
the man who is slain by secret plot is ignorant of his murderer.

## 140.—青 山 只 會 明 今 古

ch'ing<sup>1</sup> shan<sup>1</sup> chih<sup>3</sup> hui<sup>4</sup> ming<sup>2</sup> chin<sup>1</sup> ku<sup>3</sup>綠 水 何 曾 洗 是 非  
lu<sup>4</sup> shui<sup>3</sup> ho<sup>2</sup> ts'êng<sup>2</sup> hsi<sup>3</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> fei<sup>1</sup>The green mountain ever stands as a monument of the present  
and past, clear water never washes away the right and wrong.

## 141.—常 將 有 日 想 無 日

ch'ang<sup>2</sup> ch'iang<sup>1</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> jih<sup>4</sup> ssü<sup>1</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> jih<sup>4</sup>

莫 待 無 時 想 有 時

mo<sup>4</sup> tai<sup>4</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> shih<sup>2</sup> ssü<sup>1</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> shih<sup>2</sup>

In the midst of prosperity always think of adversity, don't wait until you are poor.

## 142.—善 懲 到 頭 終 有 報

shan<sup>4</sup> é<sup>4</sup> tao<sup>4</sup> t'ou<sup>2</sup> chung<sup>1</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> pao<sup>4</sup>

只 爭 來 早 與 來 遲

chih<sup>3</sup> chéng<sup>1</sup> lai<sup>2</sup> tsao<sup>3</sup> yü<sup>3</sup> lai<sup>2</sup> ch'ih<sup>2</sup>

There will be a reward at last for good and bad deeds, the only difference lies in its coming early or late.

## 143.—蒿 蓬 隱 着 靈 芝 草

hao<sup>1</sup> p'êng<sup>2</sup> yin<sup>3</sup> cho<sup>1</sup> ling<sup>2</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> ts'ao<sup>3</sup>

淤 泥 陷 着 紫 金 盆

yü<sup>1</sup> ni<sup>2</sup> hsién<sup>4</sup> cho<sup>1</sup> tzü<sup>3</sup> chin<sup>1</sup> p'én<sup>2</sup>

Among the wormwood grass the plant of long life is hidden, a rich gold basin is found imbedded in the mire.

## 144.—勸 君 莫 作 虧 心 事

ch'üan<sup>4</sup> chün<sup>1</sup> mo<sup>4</sup> tso<sup>4</sup> k'uei<sup>1</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup> shih<sup>4</sup>

古 往 今 來 放 過 誰

ku<sup>3</sup> wang<sup>3</sup> chin<sup>1</sup> lai<sup>2</sup> fang<sup>3</sup> kuo<sup>4</sup> shui<sup>2</sup>

I exhort you to do no discreditable acts, from time immemorial no one has been pardoned.

## 145.—山 寺 日 高 僧 未 起

shan<sup>1</sup> ssü<sup>4</sup> jih<sup>4</sup> kuo<sup>1</sup> sêng<sup>1</sup> wei<sup>4</sup> ch'i<sup>3</sup>

算 來 名 利 不 如 閒

suan<sup>4</sup> lai<sup>2</sup> ming<sup>2</sup> li<sup>4</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> ju<sup>2</sup> hsien<sup>2</sup>

The priest of the temple does not rise until the sun is high in the heavens, or otherwise put, he who aspires to rank and fame has not as much enjoyment as the one who does nothing.

## 146.—欺 心 莫 賭 洪 許 水

ch'i<sup>1</sup> hei<sup>1</sup> mo<sup>4</sup> tu<sup>3</sup> hung<sup>2</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> shui<sup>3</sup>

人 與 世 情 朝 朝 隨

jén<sup>2</sup> yü<sup>3</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> ch'ing<sup>2</sup> chao<sup>1</sup> chao<sup>1</sup> sui<sup>2</sup>

Do not perjure yourself by taking false oaths, be sure your sins will find you out.

## 147.—人 生 稀 有 七 十 餘

jén<sup>2</sup> shéng<sup>1</sup> hsi<sup>1</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> ch'i<sup>1</sup> shih<sup>3</sup> yü<sup>2</sup>

多 少 風 光 不 同 居

to<sup>1</sup> shao<sup>3</sup> fêng<sup>1</sup> kuang<sup>1</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> t'ung<sup>2</sup> chü<sup>1</sup>

There are only a few who live beyond 70, customs and times are ever changing.

## 148.—長 江 一 去 無 回 流

ch'ang<sup>2</sup> ch'iang<sup>1</sup> i<sup>1</sup> ch'ü<sup>4</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> hui<sup>2</sup> lang<sup>4</sup>

人 老 何 曾 再 少 年

jén<sup>2</sup> lao<sup>3</sup> ho<sup>2</sup> ts'êng<sup>2</sup> tsai<sup>4</sup> shao<sup>4</sup> nien<sup>2</sup>

The Great River always flows onward, never backward, a man who is old cannot become young again.

## 149.—大 道 勸 人 三 件 事

ta<sup>4</sup> tao<sup>4</sup> ch'üan<sup>4</sup> jen<sup>2</sup> san<sup>1</sup> chien<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup>

戒 酒 除 花 莫 賭 錢

chieh<sup>4</sup> chiu<sup>3</sup> ch'u<sup>2</sup> hua<sup>1</sup> mo<sup>4</sup> tu<sup>3</sup> ch'ien<sup>2</sup>

The great principle exhorts man in three different ways:—  
leave off drinking, give up licentious living and don't gamble.

## 150.—言 多 語 失 皆 因 酒

yen<sup>2</sup> to<sup>1</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> shih<sup>1</sup> chieh<sup>1</sup> yin<sup>1</sup> chiu<sup>3</sup>

義 斷 親 疏 只 為 錢

i<sup>4</sup> tuan<sup>4</sup> ch'in<sup>1</sup> shu<sup>1</sup> chih<sup>3</sup> wei<sup>4</sup> ch'ien<sup>2</sup>

If you drink wine, you will talk too much and offend; relations are alienated and friends estranged through money transactions.

## 151.—有 事 但 近 君 子 說

yu<sup>3</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> tan<sup>4</sup> chin<sup>4</sup> chün<sup>1</sup> tzü<sup>3</sup> shuo<sup>1</sup>

是 非 休 聽 小 人 言

shih<sup>4</sup> fei<sup>1</sup> hsiu<sup>1</sup> t'ing<sup>1</sup> hsiao<sup>3</sup> jen<sup>2</sup> yen<sup>2</sup>

If you have anything to ask, deliberate with the superior man, no matter whether right or wrong do not listen to the mean man.

## 152.—妻 賢 何 愁 家 不 富

ch'i<sup>1</sup> hsien<sup>2</sup> ho<sup>2</sup> ch'ou<sup>2</sup> chia<sup>1</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> fu<sup>4</sup>

子 孝 何 須 父 向 前

tzü<sup>3</sup> hsiao<sup>4</sup> ho<sup>2</sup> hsiu<sup>1</sup> fu<sup>4</sup> hsiang<sup>4</sup> ch'ien<sup>2</sup>

If the wife is virtuous, you need not trouble, your family will be rich; if your sons are filial, there is no need for the father to come to the front.

## 153.—心 好 家 門 生 貴 子

hsin<sup>1</sup> hao<sup>3</sup> chia<sup>1</sup> mén<sup>2</sup> shéng<sup>1</sup> kuei<sup>4</sup> tzü<sup>3</sup>

命 好 何 須 靠 祖 田

ming<sup>4</sup> hao<sup>3</sup> ho<sup>2</sup> hsü<sup>1</sup> k'ao<sup>4</sup> tsu<sup>3</sup> t'ien<sup>2</sup>

If your heart is good, a noble son will be born to the family; if your destiny is good, there is no need to depend on your ancestral fields.

## 154.—侵 人 田 土 騙 人 錢

ch'in<sup>1</sup> jén<sup>2</sup> t'ien<sup>2</sup> t'u<sup>3</sup> p'ien<sup>4</sup> jen<sup>2</sup> ch'ien<sup>2</sup>

榮 華 富 貴 不 多 年

jung<sup>2</sup> hua<sup>2</sup> fu<sup>4</sup> kuei<sup>4</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> to<sup>1</sup> nien<sup>2</sup>

If you appropriate the land of another, or swindle a man out of money, you cannot enjoy the fruits (of such actions) in happiness and prosperity for very long.

## 155.—莫 道 眼 前 無 可 報

mo<sup>4</sup> tao<sup>4</sup> yen<sup>3</sup> ch'ien<sup>2</sup> wu<sup>2</sup> k'o<sup>3</sup> pao<sup>4</sup>

分 明 折 在 子 孫 邊

fén<sup>1</sup> ming<sup>2</sup> ché<sup>2</sup> tsai<sup>4</sup> tzü<sup>3</sup> sun<sup>1</sup> pien<sup>1</sup>

Don't say there is no retribution at present, (if not on you) it will inevitably fall upon your sons and grandsons.

## 156.—酒 逢 知 已 千 杯 少

chiu<sup>3</sup> feng<sup>2</sup> chih<sup>1</sup> chi<sup>3</sup> ch'ien<sup>1</sup> pei<sup>1</sup> shao<sup>3</sup>

話 不 投 機 半 句 多

hua<sup>4</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> t'ou<sup>2</sup> chi<sup>1</sup> pan<sup>4</sup> chü<sup>4</sup> to<sup>1</sup>

Even if you drink a thousand cups of wine in friendship, it is not too much; when you speak to a man on a subject upon which your views do not coincide, then even half a sentence is too much.

## 157.—衣服破時賓客少

*i<sup>1</sup> fu<sup>2</sup> p<sup>‘</sup>o<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>2</sup> pin<sup>1</sup> k<sup>‘</sup>o<sup>4</sup> shao<sup>3</sup>*

識人多處是非多  
*shih<sup>4</sup> jen<sup>2</sup> to<sup>1</sup> ch<sup>‘</sup>u<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> fei<sup>1</sup> to<sup>1</sup>*

When your clothes are torn, you will have fewer friends; if you know many people, you will have much trouble.

## 158.—草怕嚴霜 霜怕日

*ts<sup>‘</sup>ao<sup>3</sup> p<sup>‘</sup>a<sup>4</sup> yen<sup>2</sup> shuang<sup>1</sup> shuang<sup>1</sup> p<sup>‘</sup>a<sup>4</sup> jih<sup>4</sup>*

惡人自有惡人磨  
*ê<sup>4</sup> jen<sup>2</sup> tzü<sup>4</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> ê<sup>4</sup> jen<sup>2</sup> mo<sup>2</sup>*

The grass dreads the severe frost, but the frost dreads the sun, wicked people fear those who are more wicked than themselves.

## 159.—月過十五光明少

*yueh<sup>4</sup> kuo<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>2</sup> wu<sup>3</sup> kuang<sup>1</sup> ming<sup>2</sup> shao<sup>3</sup>*

人到中年萬事和  
*jen<sup>2</sup> tao<sup>4</sup> chung<sup>1</sup> nien<sup>2</sup> wan<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> ho<sup>2</sup>*

When the moon passes the fifteenth day, its brightness begins to wane; when people get to middle age, everything will be harmonious.

## 160.—良言一句三冬暖

*liang<sup>2</sup> yen<sup>2</sup> i<sup>1</sup> chü<sup>4</sup> san<sup>1</sup> tung<sup>1</sup> nuan<sup>3</sup>*

惡語傷人六月寒  
*ê<sup>4</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> shang<sup>1</sup> jen<sup>2</sup> liu<sup>4</sup> yueh<sup>4</sup> han<sup>2</sup>*

A sentence of kindly words even in mid-winter is cheery, bad words even in mid-summer are harsh and injurious to people.

三冬 mid-winter.

六月 mid-summer.

## 161.—雨裏深山雪裏烟

*yü<sup>3</sup> li<sup>3</sup> shen<sup>1</sup> shan<sup>1</sup> hsüeh<sup>3</sup> li<sup>3</sup> yen<sup>1</sup>*

看時容易做時難  
*k<sup>‘</sup>an<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>2</sup> jung<sup>2</sup> i<sup>4</sup> tso<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>2</sup> nan<sup>2</sup>*

It is easy to observe the high mountains in the rain and the smoke in the snow storm, but difficult to reproduce them.

## 162.—無名草木年年發

*wu<sup>2</sup> ming<sup>2</sup> ts<sup>‘</sup>ao<sup>3</sup> mu<sup>4</sup> nien<sup>2</sup> nien<sup>2</sup> fa<sup>1</sup>*

不信男兒一世窮  
*pu<sup>4</sup> hsin<sup>4</sup> nan<sup>2</sup> érh<sup>2</sup> i<sup>1</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> ch<sup>‘</sup>iung<sup>2</sup>*

Unnamed grass comes forth every year, don't believe that a man will be poor for ever.

## 163.—若不與人行方便

*jo<sup>4</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> yü<sup>3</sup> jen<sup>2</sup> hsing<sup>2</sup> fang<sup>1</sup> pien<sup>4</sup>*

念盡彌陀總是空  
*nien<sup>4</sup> chin<sup>4</sup> mi<sup>2</sup> t<sup>‘</sup>o<sup>2</sup> tsung<sup>3</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> k<sup>‘</sup>ung<sup>1</sup>*

If you don't do something for other people, all your prayers to Buddha are in vain.

## 164.—少年休笑白頭翁

*shao<sup>4</sup> nien<sup>2</sup> hsiu<sup>1</sup> hsiao<sup>4</sup> po<sup>2</sup> t<sup>‘</sup>ou<sup>2</sup> wéng<sup>1</sup>*

花開能有幾時紅  
*hua<sup>1</sup> k<sup>‘</sup>ai<sup>1</sup> néng<sup>2</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> chi<sup>3</sup> shih<sup>2</sup> hung<sup>2</sup>*

Young men don't laugh at grey hairs, how long does the flower bloom?

## 165.—越 奸 越 狡 越 貧 窮

yüeh<sup>4</sup> chien<sup>1</sup> yüeh<sup>4</sup> chiao<sup>3</sup> yüeh<sup>4</sup> p'in<sup>2</sup> ch'iung<sup>2</sup>

奸 狡 原 來 天 不 容

chien<sup>1</sup> chiao<sup>3</sup> yüan<sup>2</sup> lai<sup>2</sup> t'ien<sup>1</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> jung<sup>2</sup>

The more cunning and crafty you are the poorer you will be, cunning and craftiness will never be sanctioned by heaven.

## 166.—富 貴 若 從 奸 狡 得

fu<sup>4</sup> kuei<sup>4</sup> jo<sup>4</sup> ts'ung<sup>2</sup> chien<sup>1</sup> chiao<sup>3</sup> té<sup>2</sup>

世 間 呆 漢 吸 西 風

shih<sup>4</sup> chien<sup>1</sup> tai<sup>1</sup> han<sup>4</sup> hsi<sup>1</sup> hsi<sup>1</sup> feng<sup>1</sup>

If honour and riches are obtained through cunning and craftiness, the foolish in the world will have to live on air (lit. breathe the western wind).

喝 西 北 風 drink the north-west wind, i.e.—get nothing.

## 167.—忠 臣 不 事 二 君 主

chung<sup>1</sup> ch'én<sup>2</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> shih<sup>4</sup> érh<sup>4</sup> chün<sup>1</sup> chu<sup>3</sup>

烈 女 不 嫁 二 夫 郎

lieh<sup>4</sup> nit<sup>4</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> chia<sup>4</sup> érh<sup>4</sup> fu<sup>1</sup> lang<sup>2</sup>

A patriotic minister does not serve two sovereigns, a chaste girl does not marry two husbands.

## 168.—小 人 狡 猥 心 腸 罷

hsiao<sup>3</sup> jén<sup>2</sup> chiao<sup>3</sup> hua<sup>2</sup> hsin<sup>1</sup> ch'ang<sup>2</sup> tai<sup>3</sup>

君 子 公 平 托 上 蒼

chün<sup>1</sup> tzü<sup>3</sup> kung<sup>1</sup> p'ing<sup>2</sup> t'o<sup>1</sup> shang<sup>4</sup> ts'ang<sup>1</sup>

A mean man is cunning, his heart is wicked; a superior man is honest and trusts in heaven above.

## 169.—一 字 千 金 價 不 多

i<sup>1</sup> tzü<sup>4</sup> ch'ien<sup>1</sup> chin<sup>1</sup> chia<sup>4</sup> pu<sup>4</sup> to<sup>1</sup>

會 文 會 算 有 誰 過

hui<sup>4</sup> wen<sup>2</sup> hui<sup>4</sup> suan<sup>4</sup> yu<sup>3</sup> shui<sup>2</sup> kuo<sup>4</sup>

One character is worth 1,000 taels, even that is not much, those who are versed in literature and mathematics have never passed unnoticed.

## 170.—小 身 會 文 國 家 用

hsiao<sup>3</sup> shén<sup>1</sup> hui<sup>4</sup> wén<sup>2</sup> kuo<sup>2</sup> chia<sup>1</sup> yung<sup>4</sup>

大 漢 空 長 作 甚 麼

ta<sup>4</sup> han<sup>4</sup> k'ung<sup>1</sup> ch'ang<sup>2</sup> tso<sup>4</sup> shén<sup>2</sup> mo<sup>2</sup>

A small man who is well educated can be employed by the Government, what is the use of a tall man who knows nothing?

Chinese Proverb,

If you have a loaf, sell half  
and buy a lily.

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